

FREDERICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

News Release

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Schey Appointed Director of New Senior Services Division

FREDERICK, MD – Frederick County Executive Jan Gardner today announced the appointment of Kathryn Schey as director of the new Division of Senior Services for Frederick County Government. Ms. Schey, who was confirmed by the County Council today, begins her new role on July 30.

"Kathy brings excellent community service experience, a fresh vision and a love for seniors to this new division," Executive Gardner commented. "Addressing the changing needs of seniors has been one of my administration's top priorities, and I am pleased to appoint Kathy to this leadership role so the County can embrace the opportunities and take on the challenges that lay ahead."

Creating a Division of Senior Services was the top recommendation of the Seniors First committee, which Executive Gardner appointed during her first year in office. With older Americans working longer and engaging in their communities in different ways, the traditional idea of what it means to age has changed. Members of Seniors First considered how the County would need to re-shape its delivery of services as a result of shifting demographics. A new division will be better able to champion the needs of Frederick County's growing senior population. By the year 2020, Frederick County will be home to more people over age 60 than school-aged children.

Programs and services currently managed by the Department of Aging, formerly part of the Division of Citizens Services, will be shifted into the new Division of Senior Services under Ms. Schey. Ms. Schey will oversee the division's three new departments – Active Seniors, Aging Services and Operations.

Previously, Ms. Schey held positions as Faith House director and director of development for the Frederick Rescue Mission. She was also quality assurance manager and transition consultant for Catholic Charities, Senior Communities. She has served as the Maryland Access Point coordinator for the Frederick County Department of Aging, and continues to serve as a caregiver consultant and speaker on senior issues.

Ms. Schey holds a master's degree in Management of Aging Services from the Erickson School at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

Executive Gardner expressed her appreciation to Division of Citizens Services Director Monica Grant and the leadership and staff at the Department of Aging, as well as the partners who helped with the transition to the new division. She also thanked the Commission on Aging, the Seniors First committee members and other dedicated volunteers who have played a role in the development of the new division.

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